

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /081 W

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R 231000Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3760

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CONFIDENTIAL BUDAPEST 2321

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, AU, HU

SUBJ: AUSTRIAN RECOGNITION OF NEW SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT

1. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AUSTRIAN COUNTERPART, DCM LEARNED PARTICULARS OF AUSTRIAN NEGOTIATIONS RE DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF SAIGON GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED JULY 15. INITIATIVE WAS SAIGON'S. VIETNAMESE TOOK POSITION THAT RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME REQUIRED SINCE AUSTRIA HAD ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH OLD REGIME. AUSTRIANS REPLIED THAT IT WAS THEIR POLICY NOT TO RECOGNIZE REGIMES BUT NATIONS; THEREFORE, RECOGNITION NOT IN QUESTION AND AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR IN BANGKOK SHOULD STILL BE CONSIDERED BY SOUTH VIETNAM AS VIENNA'S ENVOY TO SAIGON. VIETNAMESE DEMURRED AND FOR SHORT TIME NEGOTIATIONS REMAINED ON DEAD CENTER.

2. VIENNA LEARNED, HOWEVER, OF A FORMULA USED BY

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SWISS WHICH IGNORED FORMAL QUESTION OF RECOGNITION OF

NEW REGIME, MERELY OFFERING TO AGREE TO EXCHANGE OF ENVOYS AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL WITH NO REFERENCE TO CHANGE TO REGIME. AUSTRIANS PRESENTED THIS FORMULA TO SOUTH VIETNAMESE WHO ACCEPTED IT. AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AND AUSTRIA HAD AGREED TO EXCHANGE ENVOYS AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL FOLLOWED ON JULY 15.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, AUSTRIAN DCM SAID SOUTH VIETNAMESE MADE NO REFERENCE WHATSOEVER DURING TALKS TO HANOI REGIME. (AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR IN PEKING IS ALSO ACCREDITED TO HANOI.) SAID IT HAD NOT BEEN DECIDED WHO WOULD BE THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO SAIGON BUT IT COULD DEFINITELY NOT BE THE MAN FORMERLY ACCREDITED TO SAIGON, NOW RESIDENT IN BANGKOK. HE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE MIGHT VERY WELL BE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO PEKING. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS SOLELY HIS PERSONAL OPINION. AUSTRIAN ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS QUITE APPARENT DURING NEGOTIATIONS THAT SAIGON, WELL AWARE THAT HANOI ALREADY HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH QUITE A FEW COUNTRIES, IS QUITE EAGER TO OBTAIN AS MUCH DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION AS IT CAN AND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SAIGON GOVERNMENT ALSO ANXIOUS TO JOIN UN. HE OPINED THAT SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARE ANXIOUS TO REACH SAME LEVEL OF DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION AS THAT ATTAINED BY HANOI GOVERNMENT.

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